

# Safety First

Presented by: DON Services

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## SAFETY COMMITTEE:

- Neal Jones
- Justin Mastrantuoni
- Chris Little
- Tinna Miller
- Phillip Webster
- Danielle Marsh
- Patrick McGuire
- Bridget Krebs
- Sharon Gilliland
- Walt Heaney
- Jillian Hibler
- Rhonda Pager
- Kenny Rice
- Kimber Rice
- April Caldwell
- Ashley Stevenson

## Work Place Violence

According to the [National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health](#), workplace violence falls into four categories: Criminal intent, customer/client, worker-on-worker and personal relationship.

- According to *Injury Facts*, workplace assault's resulted in 20,790 injuries and 453 fatalities.
- If there is an accessible escape route, leave your belongings and get out.
- If evacuation is not possible, find a hiding place where you won't be trapped should the shooter find you, lock and blockade the door, and silence your phone.
- As a last resort and only when your life is in imminent danger, attempt to incapacitate the shooter by throwing items, improvising weapons and yelling.

### If you have any safety questions or concerns:

- Contact your Coordinator immediately with any questions or concerns:

New Castle Office: **724-652-5144**

Donora Office: **724-856-4978**

Penn Hill's Office: **724-856-4211**

Greensburg Office: **724-936-3900**

You can reach out to the safety committee directly at:  
**[donsafety@donservices.org](mailto:donsafety@donservices.org)**

Chair of the safety committee is Patrick McGuire  
Secretary is Bridget Krebs

# The Safety Committee's Health and Safety Tips

## Which occupational groups tend to be most at risk from Workplace Violence?

- Health care employees or those who dispense pharmaceuticals
- veterinary practices
- police, security, or correctional officers
- social services employees, including crisis intervention and counselling
- teachers or education providers
- municipal housing inspectors
- public works employees
- retail employees
- sellers of alcohol (sale, or consumption on the premises)
- taxi or transit drivers

## What are some examples of preventive measures

Preventive measures generally fall into three categories, workplace design, administrative practices and work practices.

**Workplace design** considers factors such as workplace lay-out, use of signs, locks or physical barriers, lighting, and electronic surveillance. Building security is one instance where workplace design issues are very important. For example, you should consider:

- Positioning the office furniture, reception area or sales or service counter so that it is visible to fellow employees or members of the public passing by.
- Positioning office furniture so that the employee is closer to a door or exit than the client and so that the employee cannot be cornered.
- Installing surveillance cameras in the public spaces of the workplace, such as entrances, parking lots, waiting rooms, etc.
- Installing physical barriers, e.g. pass-through windows or bullet-proof enclosures.
- Minimizing the number of entrances to your workplace.
- Using coded cards or keys to control access to the building or certain areas within the building.
- Using adequate exterior lighting around the workplace and near entrances.

Strategically placing fences to control access to the workplace.

